

Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation reported

KUWAIT, March 17 (R). — The Kuwait newspaper Al Qabas said today that a reconciliation between Syria and Iraq was expected to be announced shortly. Quoting diplomatic sources in Beirut, it said this new rapprochement was expected to come on April 7, the anniversary of the founding of the Arab Baath Socialist Party. Rival factions of the party rule Syria and Iraq. It added that among the signs of relaxation was the resumption of Kuwait's transit trade across Syria and Iraq which had been suspended for some time. "These signs may be the outcome of Palestinian mediation attempts undertaken quietly and gradually," the paper said.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

Zaire reportedly invaded again

KINSHASA, March 17 (AFP). — Pressure on Zairese President Mobutu Sese Seko's government mounted today with reports reaching here that a second invasion force was battling its way into Zaire from Angola while a 5,000-strong first wave consolidated its position in the copper-mining region of Shaba. Reports of the capture by the second column of the diamond-mining town of Tshikapa, southeast of here, have not yet been confirmed. But sources said the column crossed into Zaire last night from Angola. The original attack, which began last week was now reported close to Kowezi, an important copper-mining centre in western Shaba (formerly Katanga), whose population includes some 4,000 Belgians working for the mines. (See related story on p. 6)

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Reprisals for Junblatt's assassination reported

RUT, March 17 (Agencies). Sixty four persons, all of Lebanese Christians, were killed today in six villages in Shouf region southeast of Beirut as a reprisal for the assassination yesterday of Lebanese Druze leader Kamal Junblatt, rightist source reported.

Meanwhile, the Phalangist controlled Voice of Lebanon radio, quoting rightwing sources, said that 4,000 soldiers of the Arab peace-keeping force had taken up position around Shouf villages.

Information obtained at the funeral today in Moutkara of Mr. Junblatt indicated that there were fewer victims of the violence than the rightist sources had indicated, with no more than about 40 dead. After learning of the situation, the son of the slain leftist leader and Sheikh Abu Chakra, religious leader of the Druze community, toured the region and managed to limit the number of incidents, Phalangist radio reported.

Mr. Walid Junblatt, in a television appeal last night, called on the Lebanese people to keep calm.

"Let this day be one of the national unity for which Kamal Junblatt died a martyr," the son added.

In the occupied West Bank, police today arrested two youths while dispersing mourners for the assassinated Lebanese leader.

Chanting, sobbing young people carrying photographs of Mr. Junblatt were dispersed when they tried to block streets in the towns of Hebron, where the arrests were made, and Ramallah.

Processions in two other towns went off without incident.

The 38,000 Israeli Druze community, in a public announcement, called for swift justice for those responsible for the shooting in Lebanon yesterday of Mr. Junblatt.

Syrian President Hafez Assad last night condemned the slaying of Mr. Junblatt and said the criminal assassins wanted to sabotage the march towards peace and security in Lebanon.

He said in a message to Mr. Walid Junblatt "By this heinous crime, the assassins were serving the plans of the enemies of Lebanon and the entire Arab Nation."

Syrian Prime Minister Idriss al-Khatib returned here today from Amman after a day visit during which he had discussions with His Majesty Hussein on the current Arab situation and the progress of relations between the two countries.

Syrian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Hamid, who accompanied Premier Khatib, told reporters in Amman and Damascus that talks covered the international and regional situation and the need to strengthen joint Arab action. They discussed bilateral relations and steps already taken towards normal relations of some kind.

The Jordanian and Syrian sides headed by their respective ministers had resumed their meetings in Amman this morning on the evaluation of the steps taken towards military action.



BEFORE BURIAL -- Leftist leader Kamal Junblatt (centre) lies with both his aides at his Mukhtara mansion Thursday prior to their burial.

Arafat addresses PNC: PLO strives to establish democratic, secular state in all of Palestine

CAIRO, March 17 (R). — Palestinian commando leader Yasser Arafat made clear today that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had no intention of giving up its aim of creating a secular and democratic state in all of Palestine.

Mr. Arafat's restatement of the PLO's ultimate aims came in a four-hour keynote speech at the meeting here of the Palestinian National Council.

The PLO leader's speech was summarised at a press conference by Mr. Mahmoud Labbadi who acts as spokesman for the PNC, the supreme body of the PLO.

"We are striving to establish a secular and democratic state in Palestine," Mr. Arafat was quoted as saying. He added: "We do not believe and we are not hopeful that there will be a Palestinian state."

Mr. Arafat based his gloomy assessment of the early prospects for the establishment of a Palestinian state on a statement he ascribed to Aharon Yariv, an advisor to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. Arafat quoted Mr. Yariv as saying that there would be another Middle East war late this year or early next year even if the 1973 Geneva peace conference were reconvened.

Late last night, a leading member of the council, Dr. Faysel Sayegh, predicted that there would be a fifth Middle East war before a reconvened Geneva peace conference. A post-

war settlement would aim at excluding both the Soviet Union, a co-chairman of the conference, and the Palestinians, he said.

Dr. Sayegh, a long-time resident of the United States, was asked to address the council on U.S. policy in the Middle East. Observers said his assessment echoed growing Palestinian disillusion with Washington policy.

Mr. Arafat sharply attacked the United States for pouring \$2.5 billion of aid annually into Israel as a means to assure its survival. The United States, he said, was basing its policy in the Middle East on U.S. oil interests and regarded Israel as a guarantee that these interests would be protected.

He said that "the Americans" had assassinated the late King Faisal of Saudi Arabia because of his insistence that Jerusalem -- whose eastern half was occupied by Israel in the 1967 war -- must be liberated and returned to the Arabs.

Conference sources said that Mr. Arafat had mentioned recent contacts between Palestinian envoys and members of the Israeli Peace Committee. The Palestinian side was led by Mr. Essam Sariawi, who has come under bitter criticism from virtually all speakers at the council meeting here.

Today Mr. Arafat confided

that such contacts had been held and thanked Mr. Sariawi for his role. He added the PLO need not fear such contacts since it was firm in its aim of creating a secular state.

Mr. Arafat roundly rejected the idea of creating a Palestinian government-in-exile -- an idea advocated by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and other Arab leaders. They argue that such a government would make it easier for the Palestinians to take part in international conferences such as the proposed Geneva talks.

"It is nice of our (Arab) friends to advise us," PNC spokesman Labbadi said. "But the decision is ours."

In a later development, a 16-member committee at the PNC meeting here tonight began drafting a political statement predicted to reflect a tougher Palestinian stand on ways of solving the Middle East conflict.

Mr. Arafat said he would be in Amman for a reception hosted Thursday by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

Mr. Carter handled Israel cautiously, describing the founding of the state as "one of the finest acts in the world of nations that ever occurred."

He also referred to the creation of a homeland for Palestinian refugees as one of three

indispensable elements for a lasting peace in the Middle East, along with recognition of "Israel's right to exist permanently in peace" and the establishment of "permanent borders".

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could survive on its own energy sources, but other countries would suffer considerably, he added.

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The small mill town of 13,000 people of mainly Irish descent gave Mr. Carter a rousing welcome as he opened his promised "Meet the People" campaign.

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Speaking last night in Clinton, Massachusetts, Mr. Carter said: "There has to be a homeland provided for the Palestinian refugees who have suffered so many years."

The president studiously avoided saying whether such a "homeland" should be an independent entity, but, significantly, Mr. Carter's statements came shortly before a major speech he is to deliver at the United Nations General Assembly.

Despite the restrictions implied by his use of the word "refugees", the statement was likely to be considered a new gesture on behalf of the Palestinians.

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Carter in favour of "homeland for Palestinian refugees"



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING -- U.S. President Carter responds to the ovation from citizens of Clinton, Mass., Wednesday night as he came on the stage to attend a special town meeting. (AP wire-photo).

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Khleifawi returns home

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PLO representative looks forward to meeting Carter at reception

UNITED NATIONS, March 17 — The ranking Palestinian representative in New York is to meet President Carter tonight, despite arduous diplomatic efforts aptly aimed at heading off encounter.

29 people reported executed in China

PEKING, March 17 (AFP). — Twenty-nine people have been executed in the cities of Shanghai -- former stronghold of the "gang of four" -- and Canton for offences including political crimes, it was learned here today.

Foreign travellers to the two cities said a supreme court notice displayed in the streets of Shanghai announced also that 53 people were sentenced for various crimes and counter-revolutionary activities, with 26 death sentences to take effect immediately.

The other people condemned were granted a two-year suspension to repent and demonstrate good behaviour, the travellers said. Observers commented that the indications were that the suppression of troublemakers, criminals, counter-revolutionaries and "class enemies" is growing.

Only two of the 26 people shot in Shanghai were sentenced for political crimes.

The official notice said one was accused of having hindered the criticism of the "gang of four" including Mao Tse-tung's widow Chiang Ching who were arrested in Peking last October for allegedly plotting a coup.

The second criminal was executed for opposing the policy of sending young people to the countryside. There was no elaboration.

The other 24 "criminals" executed were sentenced for other crimes including murder, mail theft and looting of grain.

The notice said these cases were examined by the masses, workers and peasants, in a trial conforming with Chinese law.

The sentences were based on the directives of the party central committee concerning counter-revolutionary activities.

also visit refugee camps in Jordan, will prepare a report on the living conditions of the Arab people and their treatment by Israel. It will be submitted to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

The committee will also visit the occupied areas. The Israeli authorities have prevented several international committees from entering the occupied areas for an on-the-spot check.

While in Damascus, the committee met with the competent Syrian authorities and visited the town of Quneitra in the Golan, which was destroyed by the Israeli forces before their withdrawal in 1975.

The committee, formed by the World Health Organisation (WHO), is scheduled to confer with officials of the Health and Foreign Ministries, the Red Crescent Society and UNRWA in order to learn about conditions in the occupied areas.

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also visit refugee camps in Jordan, will prepare a report on the living conditions of the Arab people and their treatment by Israel. It will be submitted to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

White House says nothing new in Carter statement

CHARLESTON, West Virginia, March 18 (AFP). — President Jimmy Carter's press spokesman stressed today that Mr. Carter had not intended to introduce a new element in the Middle East situation by speaking of a "homeland" for the Palestinians.

Spokesman Jody Powell said President Carter was merely repeating what he has said for two years -- that a place must be found for Palestinian refugees.

President Carter had been even more specific during the presidential election campaign, Mr. Powell said, and had spoken of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

In his statement in Clinton, Massachusetts, yesterday, President Carter had been more circumspect and had said a homeland could be established

first by an agreement among the Arabs themselves and then by an agreement between these countries and Israel, Mr. Powell explained.

The president's full comment was: "The Palestinians claim up to this moment that Israel has no right to be there; the land belongs to the Palestinians and they've never yet given up their publicly professed commitment to destroy Israel. That has to be overcome. There has to be a homeland provided for the Palestinian refugees who have suffered for many, many years."

President Carter had no specific preference on whether the homeland should be established inside another country or separately, Mr. Powell said.

Mr. Powell expressed a certain surprise at the importance being given internationally to President Carter's statement.

"This is the first time that a U.S. president has come out in favour of a Palestinian state alongside Israel... Carter's remarks cannot be shrugged off. This new style of speech indicates a new approach," the daily Maariv said.

Mr. Rabin called in the Knesset yesterday for an Israeli information campaign aimed at American public opinion and elected representatives intrigued many here who said it sounded like the start of moves by the powerful pro-Israel lobby in the U.S.

The lobby, supported by many segments of the influential American Jewish community, has often been described as "Israel's last card" in a possible clash with the U.S. administration.

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Mr. Carrillo at the same time told newsmen that he expected expelled party President Dolores Ibarria to arrive in Spain from Moscow at the end of the month.

Under the decree, a Ge-

neral Council of Catalonia is to be set up to work out an autonomy statute for the region. The statute has to be approved by parliament.

Meanwhile, Spanish Communist Party Secretary General Santiago Carrillo was yesterday granted a passport to visit his brother, Roberto, who is seriously ill in Paris.

The government issued a third decree to meet demands for greater autonomy in Catalonia. Under the decree, a Ge-

neral Council of Catalonia is to be set up to work out an autonomy statute for the region. The statute has to be approved by parliament.

WHO fact-finding mission on occupied territories will arrive here tomorrow

DAMASCUS, March 17 (JNA). — A United Nations Tripartite fact-finding committee looking into the health and living conditions of the Arab population in the occupied territories is due to arrive in Amman tomorrow on a two-day visit as part of a tour to a number of Arab countries.

Spanish amnesty delay expected

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Shake, pal

The furore that has blown up around the possibility of U.S. President Carter meeting PLO delegates at a United Nations reception is a discredit to all concerned. It shows grown people acting like children, and it is, in our opinion, a matter of disgrace for the Americans. But given the circumstances of the moment, and the special powers of the Zionist forces in the United States, it is not surprising. We think it brings an added bit of humiliation to the United States which the United States does not need, and certainly does not need to put up with.

The fact that President Carter would not want to shake hands with PLO representatives in a receiving line is all quite understandable to us. The U.S. does not recognise the PLO, and has the full right to refuse to meet with PLO representatives. Thus the receiving line that was supposed to follow Mr. Carter's speech to the U.N. has been cancelled, which makes sense from the American-Israeli point of view. So far so good. But the Americans have also gone so far as to cancel the television and photography coverage of the reception, on the rationale that it would be politically embarrassing for Mr. Carter to be photographed with PLO people. He may not go up to them and shake their hands, but perhaps they would try to confront him and put him in an embarrassing situation, which the cameras would record for all the world to see. Perhaps the thinking in the White House is that the PLO representatives, with their guerrilla background, would sneak up on Mr. Carter from behind the potted plants?

The fact that the United States is so sensitive to this matter that it would go so far as to cancel photographic and television coverage is not a very pleasant thing to see happen at a time when Mr. Carter is talking sensibly about the outlines of a Middle East settlement and the core problem of the Palestinians. One the eve of his U.N. visit, he said that the Palestinians would need a homeland. In this, Mr. Carter is talking courageously and honestly, and furthers the ability of his country to act as a mediator in the Middle East. The United States is not the natural enemy of the Arabs or the Palestinians, but it fosters Arab enmity and bitterness when it acts as it has acted in this matter.

It seems strange and incongruous to us that Mr. Carter says the Palestinian question is central to the Arab-Israeli conflict, but that he shuns the official delegates of the Palestinians. We want Mr. Carter and the American people to know that we appreciate his dilemma, and we know well why he must act as he goes. We do not hate him; we sympathise with him. And we look forward not only to the day when Palestinians and Americans can shake hands, but also to the day when they can kiss each other on both cheeks, and be photographed doing so.

Would Mr. Carter shun a Palestinian child who would come up to him carrying a rose and seeking a handshake of friendship? What are the Americans really afraid of, the Palestinians, or the ire of the Israelis?

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The Jordanian dailies commented in their Thursday editorials on the speech of national significance delivered by His Majesty King Hussein, on Teachers' Day last Wednesday, in which he reiterated Jordan's policy on the Middle East crisis and emphasised the necessity for Jordanians to ward off attempts to weaken Jordan's position and national unity.

AL RA'I, says that there is no unveiling of secrets when we say that Jordan, at present, faces a number of international bargains affecting its own existence, similar to those of the nineteen twenties when efforts were made at the time to include Jordan in the Balfour Declaration. However, as the late King Abdullah succeeded in saving Jordan by keeping it out of the Balfour Declaration and later salvaged part of Palestine in 1948, so His Majesty King Hussein, during the past quarter century, has succeeded in saving Jordan from such conspiracies and has courageously led its people and implanted in them a confidence in their future and national identity, the paper said. The hostile campaign currently being launched by "our friends", the paper says, contributes to the critical situation this country must pass through. It is aimed at creating a rift between the Jordanians and their leadership on one hand and between Jordan and its Arab sister countries on the other. We are capable, the paper concludes, to face the challenge of this campaign and all others, as we are sure that it is impossible to create a division between the Jordanian people and their leaders.

AL DUSTOUR, says that by speaking of the critical phase our country is passing through right now, His Majesty has wanted to stress on Teachers' Day the international between edu-

cation and the country's national goals and aspirations. The teachers and every citizen who heard His Majesty's speech, should renew their allegiance to work for the prosperity and unity of the country. His Majesty's once again reiterating Jordanian policy and its adherence to Arab national goals, has enabled every Jordanian to weigh the heavy responsibility he shoulders and the efforts required of him to defeat the conspiracies directed to harm the morale of this country, the paper concluded.

AL SHAH, says that His Majesty has outlined Jordan's policy on the local, Arab and international level on Teachers' Day, teachers are the people who carry the major responsibility in forming the Jordanian citizen capable of assuming future national responsibilities. The hostile campaign launched against this country, the paper adds, is the result of the enemy's conviction that Jordan's firm and clear stand it the only obstacle preventing it from realising its expansionist policies. Hence the efforts to cancel and paralyse the Jordanian role on the issue. However, the paper says, these manoeuvres shall not affect our efforts. We are proud to have made it possible for logic and reason to reign in dealing with the Middle East crisis since the crisis has been governed for so long by emotional reactions and demagogic attitudes. Despite the many conspiracies it has been exposed to, during its recent history, this country has succeeded in keeping logic and reason as the principle weapon capable of defeating the enemy. We stand today stronger than before, the paper concludes, guided by His Majesty's wise leadership and capability to surmount and wrest victory for the Palestinian cause and its people.



THE MYTH OF ECONOMIC "AID"

Development aid to poor nations proves to heap debt upon debt

Development aid has become one of the world's biggest growth industries. Many people do well out of it - particularly people in the richer countries. As to the poor people it is meant to help, very little of it reaches them.

MUNICH, (F.T.) - Jimmy Carter nearly got it right when he said: "I'm tired of our taxing the poor people of our rich country and sending the money to the rich people of poor countries."

This remark was studiously noted by the army of Carter-watchers earnestly seeking clues to the new administration's attitudes to development aid and foreign relations, because U.S. policies are more likely to undergo dramatic changes in this field at the hands of the new incumbents than in any other.

Cabinet changes in other important donor governments - in Britain following Reg Prentice's resignation and in West Germany after Development Minister Egon Bahr's elevation to Business Manager of his Social Democratic Party - will also lead to a re-think. Some home truths about the development aid industry may be timely - for aid is not all it is cracked up to be.

Development aid was invented 30 years ago in the euphoria of victory, when the United Nations was founded after the last world war. The spiritual offspring of Allied international solidarity and the voluntary charitable and disaster-relief appeals of colonial times, it was modelled largely on the "Marshall Aid" by which the U.S. helped Europe recover from the economic ravages of war. But the handing out of Marshall Aid loans to war-devastated Europe lasted only four years, while development aid grew into a juggernaut multinational industry. It has acquired the status of an open-ended commitment for rich countries' taxpayers.

Far more serious, it has failed to achieve its objective of enriching the earth's poor. After 30 years of expenditure totalling hundreds of billions of dollars they are poorer both in relative and absolute terms. Nor does aid offer any sign that it ever will succeed.

Why this is so was unintentionally revealed by Egon Bahr, shortly after starting his brief stint at West Germany's Ministry of Economic Cooperation. Cutting through the jargon behind which development aid economists coyly hide the scope of their activities, he appealed openly to German well-meaning taxpayers to demand public support for aid - which had flagged to the point of active opposition or total indifference under his predecessor, Richard Eppler.

Herr Bahr said: "One German job in seven - as many as provided by the whole German automobile industry - depends on selling manufactured goods to the Third World." In later speeches this ratio had risen to 1-5 - this when Germany has a quasi-permanent jobless quota of one million, even after repatriating 1.5 million superfluous "Lustarbeiter" (migrant workers).

Bahr went on to claim: "Of every Deutschmark spent on capital aid 80 per cent comes back to Germany; of every mark on technical aid 90 per cent comes back (or in reality never leaves the country); while of every DM paid into World Bank funds two marks come back to Germany."

mythology which has grown up around aid to shield it from the public eye.

The first myth to clear away is that aid is "given". Most of the small part which ends up in "recipient" countries is not given but lent at rewarding if not excessive rates of interest. The outpouring of the Western cornucopia has resulted in the massive indebtedness of the entire Third World. In several extreme cases, repayment of old debts plus accumulated interest of old and current loans exceeds the debtor country's total income from aid.

This spending spree has long been recognised as inflationary. But it is not the West's only way of exporting inflation - indeed, on the scale of total world trade movements it is a relatively insignificant element. The second entrenched myth is that raw materials producers - particularly the oil exporters - are swimming in money. Admittedly the few thousand inhabitants of some Gulf States statistically enjoy a higher income per head than the average American's \$7,000, and would be quite rich if the oil millions their rulers bank each year were shared out among them.

But at the other extreme Nigeria - a major earner from oil - still ranks among the 20 poorest countries, with an average income per head of around \$154 including its oil income, according to the World Bank.

Apart from this, the Shah of Iran pointed out after the oil-price explosion following the Middle East war in 1973 that of every dollar's worth of petrol in the tank of your car, nine cents go to the producer. The other 91 cents go to the oil companies, the transporters, the refiners, the distributors - and a large bite to the exchequers of the consuming countries. Just a few months before the war brought the "oil

crisis" on the world, Standard Oil declared a dividend of 60 per cent - the largest in the company's history until then.

A further myth is that the industrialised world is making vast contributions to aid while the oil-rich OPEC countries are doing very little. OECD figures show in fact that OPEC countries are more than five times as generous as the West - giving 1.8 per cent of their GNP in 1974 against the West's 0.33 per cent average. Jimmy Carter shares this illusion, as he showed when calling upon the OPEC countries, among others, to take on a fairer share of the aid burden.

Against this background, aid appears itself as a myth. Seen in the light of other expenditures, Western generosity is not massive, but microscopic. Germany is a good example: With a balance of trade surplus of over DM 60 billion this year (and continually expected to do better next) it spent 3.7 billion marks on official aid in 1975.

In comparison, the ministry of health estimates the cost of illness caused by over-eating in Germany at DM 17 billion a year; German beer consumption, among the highest in the world, is worth some 27 billion marks per year.

The original ideal of aid was to achieve a redistribution of wealth from the rich countries to the poor. The often sincere and exhausting labours of agriculturalists and other experts "in the field" in the Third World only form a deceptive facade behind which the real game is played.

What aid largely achieves in practice is a vertical redistribution of wealth - from the poor of the rich countries (i.e. the taxpayers, among whom the lowest paid contribute by far the greater proportion of tax money) to the rich of the rich countries (e.g. the industrialists, bankers and other successful contractors, professional consultants and administrators - including the corrupt ones among them) while giving a modest "dash" to the rich of the poor countries to lend the operation a little colour.

If Mr. Carter had put it that way round he would have been even nearer to the truth.

The role of administrators in a turbulent era

The underdeveloped nations have been working hard to close the gap between themselves and the developed nations. However, the transition is a tough road with more than just economics to deal with. And many are apprehensive of the problems common to the developed nations. How to avoid these pitfalls while still progressing toward development requires a real understanding of that aim and of the sacrifices which will be required to reach it. Dr. Faisal F. Murrar delves into the nature of these problems and identifies the major areas of consideration for objective development in a primarily Arab culture.

By Dr. Faisal F. Murrar
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Where progress, industrialisation, automation, power and richness are some of the distinguishing characteristics of developed nations, we find that instability, international rivalries and mass demand for social justice are some of the problems facing these societies. However, with the great increase in numbers of independent states; with the intricate, varying groupings and subgroupings, crossings and overlappings among them - old and new states - with the increased speed of communications and transports and with the new horizons that will be discovered upon man's invasion of the moon, one expects more understanding and co-operation among nations, especially because of the big powers' awareness of the dangers of a nuclear conflict.

We have to admit, however, that there exists today - after the tragic experiences of the two conflicts which shed blood on the first half of our century - poor, weak and yet developing nations side by side with rich, strong and developed societies. But, while the second are expressing apprehension of the machine due to technology and computerisation, the first are far more entangled with problems that surpass any nation's ability to resolve within a few decades. The newly independent nations are facing a variety of problems such as: (1) Establishing the foundations of stable independent states. (2) Meeting the demanding social and economic needs of a rapidly growing population. (3) Finding the skilled personnel urgently needed to staff government departments and educational institutions, and (4) modernising agriculture, commerce and industry.

In most of the countries which became independent in the last two decades, domestic

political conflict is widespread. There is no room for contributive political activities. One source of internal conflict is the rivalry of political interests of various groups that forget their conflict temporarily to achieve independence. A second source of conflict lies in economic difficulties and in expansion in both population and economic activities.

One of the major problems facing the governments of the newly independent states is how to explain to their people the discrepancy between the levels of expectation and levels of achievement. To avoid that, these governments used to direct people's attention to external scape goats for internal ills. To do that, leaders of these nations used super-powers against each other, or they generally attacked one form of imperialism or another.

What concerns us most here is one of the most important regions among these developing nations, namely, the Middle East, which is important for human, economic and strategic factors and for which, still affected by external influence after two decades of independence, the rival great powers vie with one another to give arms and economic assistance to those governments which they desire to sustain in power.

The people in the states in which Arabs are a majority feel that a special relationship exists between them. Thus, in addition to the problems facing the developing areas mentioned above, Arabs are facing the problem of unity and self-realisation. As a matter of fact there are six major dimensions of the image of the Arab national character for which the Arabs are struggling to accomplish.

First, revolutionism: This includes the fight against occupation, the fight for independence, for social reform and freedom from arbitrary authority.

Secondly, modernism: This refers to the struggle between the modern and the traditional, increasing dependence upon science and scientific findings for the purpose of effecting better adjustment to the changing environment.

Thirdly, future-orientation: This is an action to wipe out the ruins of the past and build up the future through scientific planning and mobilization of available resources (human and natural).

Fourthly, self-confidence: This is expressed partly in terms of the discovery of the collective abilities and potentialities and partly in terms of the determination to accomplish certain aspirations such as true democracy, progress and unity with freedom.

Fifthly, egalitarianism: Arabs are determined to eliminate the injustices of the past and the dictatorship of any social or occupational class. Social freedom is symbolized by suffi-

ciency and justice which be brought about only by equality. In the political arena democracy is the guiding principle - it means universal equality before the law, and voluntary participation to discover and utilize national talent and leadership.

Sixthly, nonisolationism: The destiny of the Arab world is linked with the destiny of the Middle East and of other countries all over the world. Besides, contemporary conditions and groups, including the Eastern and the Western Blocs, United Nations organization and the Afro-Asian Latin American Bloc, can do have a lasting influence on the Arab society. Thus it is necessary to interact with the world at large.

Any educated Arab who perceived both the suffering and the aspirations of his nation, should realize that administrators in the Arab world have a big role to play in introducing the necessary changes to bring forth the expected progress, freedom, unity. I believe that an administrator should enjoy a sociopsychological imagination be able to understand the real problems facing one's people. He should be freedom-oriented to enable the citizen to fight for it and achieve it.

There is a great possibility that people in the Arab world could live in harmony if they had a unity of common interest in relation to the entire world, a unity of action to enable them to safeguard their political and economic interests in relation to the powers, whether Eastern or Western. As a prerequisite social harmony and progress numerous intra-regional conflicts must be resolved, political and economic expertise acquired and a spirit of nation and compromise developed.

In order to accomplish it takes a generation of faith, loyalty and dedication, bringing forth what one is struggling for. It is indeed that the Arabs, nearly all people around world, are awakening to need for participation. They don't want to be victimized overbig governments and others or by thoughtless, true. As we enable the individual enjoy greater freedom, must at the same time provide him with opportunities for legitimate and committed goals larger than himself. It is a moral and self-discipline vital for law and order and worth-while for any political or human achievement. Fruitful action could be developed to require the individual to accept responsibilities and to create the institutional framework in which more individual responsibility can operate.

Finally, the compelling need is to develop ways and means which will maintain individuality, enhance the potential of the individual and offer to person a role and a genuine participation in human effort and in his own future.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION	AMMAN AIRPORT	VOICE OF AMERICA
Channel 3 & 6 10:00 Quran 10:30 News 10:30 Arabic series 11:00 Three stooges 11:30 Religious programme 12:30 Cultural programme 13:00 Varieties 14:30 Soccer match 16:00 Waltons 16:50 Arabic series 17:30 Cultural programme 18:00 Arabic series	Arrivals: 8:30 Beirut (EA) 11:15 Aleppo, Damascus (S-AA) 15:00 Beirut (EA) 16:00 Kuwait (KACM) 16:20 Aqaba 16:20 Jeddah, Medina, Hael, Safa (SDI) 17:00 Cairo 17:05 Jeddah, Tabuk, Medina (SDI) 17:15 Paris, Rome 18:10 Madrid, Athens 19:40 Beirut (MEA) 21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa) 00:30 Rome (Alitalia)	Departures: 8:00 Beirut 8:45 Beirut (MEA) 10:10 Athens, Amsterdam (K-CA) 10:30 Cairo 12:00 Damascus (SAA) 14:30 Beirut (KACM) 16:45 Kuwait (KACM) 18:15 Beirut, Medina, Jeddah (SDI) 19:30 Dubai, Karachi 20:00 Kuwait 20:30 Tehran (extra flight) 22:55 Doha, Muscat 01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)
(On 896 KHEZ) 7:30 Morning melodies 7:30 News 7:40 News report 8:00 Sign off 12:00 Pop session 12:00 News summary 13:05 Pop session 14:00 News 14:30 Radio magazine 14:30 Arabic in history 15:00 Concert hour 16:00 Old favourites	16:30 Easy listening 17:30 Good vibrations (re-peat) 17:30 Pop session 18:00 News summary 18:05 Pop session 18:15 Catch the words (re-peat) 18:20 My kind of music (re-peat) 18:30 News 19:00 News 19:10 News reports 19:30 Sign off	GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show - 03:00, 04:00, 05:00, and 06:00 GMT: News, Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary, 06:30, 06:30 and 09:00 GMT: An informal presentation of popular music and feature reports and interviews, answers to 21:00 "Listeners' questions, Science Digest, 17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary. 17:30 Forum 18:30 Special English, News, 21:30
Doctors: Amman: Rafat Ammar (9557) Elias Iskander Emsh (38477) Ibbid: Ibrahim Rabadi (2796) Alcrum Momani Zarga: Mahmoud Jamal (82742) Pharmacies: Amman: Shadi (30210) College (25010)	San'ban (86726) Bashan (90593) Ibbid: Wafaa Shifa Zarga: Haniya Shab Targi: King Hussein Medical Centre (44281) University (61001) Khayma (41841) Nahda (88003)	Useful Telephone Numbers Ambulance (government) Tel. 28111 Civil defence system Tel. 24888-6 Fire headquarters Tel. 23880-6 First aid, fire, police Tel. 19 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) Tel. 26311-3 Municipal water service (emergency) Tel. 26311-3 Police headquarters Tel. 28111 Police, working patrol areas police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help Tel. 21111, 97777 Cultural Centres American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41280 British Council Tel. 26327-4 French Cultural Centre Tel. 27880 Gottlieb Institute Tel. 41280 Swiss Cultural Centre Tel. 46280 Amman Municipal Library Tel. 98111

هكذا صنعنا القليل

هكذا صنعنا القصب

Jordan's share upped \$33m

U.S. to provide \$93m assistance in 1977/78

AMMAN (J.T.) — Following is the text of a statement by Alfred D. White, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Agency for International Development, before the sub-Committee on Europe and the Middle East of the House International Relations Committee.

Mr. Chairman: We welcome the opportunity to discuss with you the status of our economic assistance program to Jordan. Jordan plays a key role in the advancement of the peace process in the Middle East. It is heavily dependent on the generosity of its friends to provide the financial assistance it needs to maintain an acceptable standard of living for its people and a sense of confidence in its future. We believe it is in the interest of the United States to reinforce our traditional close relations with the Jordanians and to ensure that Jordan remains capable of pursuing its constructive policies. Jordan is trying, through its economic development plan, to offset its economic potential to reduce the country's dependence on foreign assistance. In 1973 through 1975, Jordan

achieved an annual six per cent increase in national income. This renewed development momentum was particularly welcomed as it followed a slow-down caused by several years of both internal and external strife, including the conflict with the PLO and the loss of the West Bank to Israel in 1967. A new economic development plan, for the 1976 to 1980 period, seeks to improve on this performance. Its goals are a 12 per cent annual growth rate; greater equity in the distribution of the gains of development; accelerated development of mineral resources, principally phosphates; a reduction of the trade deficit; and increased reliance on domestic revenues to finance development projects. The plan also reflects an increased awareness of the contribution women can make to Jordan's development. Continued substantial foreign assistance would be required to support \$2.3 billion in planned investments in the public and private sectors.

U.S. assistance helps Jordan maintain essential government services. It also provides important support to Jordan's own efforts to develop its economy. From fiscal year 1973 through fiscal year 1977, we provided slightly over \$400 million in economic assistance and approximately \$56 million in PL 480. Most was provided as budget support, but increasing amounts are now provided for development loans and technical assistance.

Our development assistance strategy has two principal aims. The first is to help Jordan reduce its dependence on outside financial aid by providing funds for the development of revenue-producing activities. Examples include funding for potash development and invest-

ments in the Jordan Valley that should lead to fruit and vegetable production for both domestic consumption and for exports. The second is to help Jordan provide a wider range of services to its poor majority in both rural and in urban areas, where over 70 per cent of the Jordanian population is now located. Examples include a credit programme for small farmers in the Jordan Valley and investments in potable water.

We are requesting \$93 million in security supporting assistance funds in fiscal year 1978 to provide budget support and to continue our support of Jordan's development efforts. It is \$33 million more than requested in the previous administration's budget. Most of the increase is for development projects.

The major components of our fiscal year 1978 request include: \$42 million for support of the civilian budget; \$45 million in capital project loans in agriculture, minerals and public services; and \$5 million for technical assistance to fund projects in training, agriculture, education and health. The budget support element of our programme is reduced as a percentage of the total funding request and also in absolute terms as compared to last year. We hope in the future to be able to continue to reduce the budget support component in favour of funding for specific economic development projects.

King Hussein receives Palestine delegations

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday evening received delegations representing the tribes in Beersheba, the inhabitants of the Triangle in the Tulkarem area and the Zu'bi tribe of Nazareth, which came to Jordan to offer their condolences to His Majesty over the death of Queen Ailyn.

His Majesty thanked the delegations and the people they represent for their noble feelings and said that the Jordanian people share with him his pride in their honourable stand in the occupied land.

We share your hopes and your pains. We are intent on accomplishing the impossible to achieve justice, and hope that the efforts being exerted to reach a settlement will be fruitful. We depend on the firm stand of our brothers in the occupied land to shake off the nightmare of occupation," the King added. The reception was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Court Minister Amer Khammash and Minister of Information and President of the Executive Office for Occupied Land Affairs Adnan Abu Odeh.

Agricultural meeting ends, housing meet due in Baghdad

AMMAN (JNA). — President of Jordan's Association of Agricultural Engineers Said Al Ghazawi Thursday returned here from Baghdad after attending the 12th session of the Higher Council of the Union of Arab Agricultural Engineers, which met in Baghdad from March 13.

He said that during its two-day session, the council paid particular attention to the question of food sources in Arab countries, and stressed the necessity of greater agricultural production to meet the needs of the Arab population.

An affiliated technical conference, which is still in session, stressed the importance of the human element in achieving comprehensive rural development. Mr. Ghazawi was elected a member of the Higher Council of the Union.

Meanwhile, a conference of Arab housing and reconstruction ministers is due to open Saturday in Baghdad. A special

preparatory committee representing Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates met in the Iraqi capital Thursday to prepare the conference agenda. Jordan's delegation, headed by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Ibrahim Ayyoub, Wednesday arrived in Baghdad to take part.

MAMDOUH SALEM VISITS EXHIBIT IN CAIRO

CAIRO, March 17 (JNA). — Egypt's Prime Minister Mamedouh Salem yesterday paid a visit to the Jordanian-Syrian exhibit at Cairo International Market, which was opened yesterday afternoon and will stay open until the end of March.

Upon arrival, Mr. Salem was received by Jordan's Minister of Industry and Commerce Najmeddin Dejami, Syria's Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Mohammad Al Inadi and other top Jordanian and Syrian officials.

Egypt's Minister of Commerce Zakaria Abdul Fattah praised the idea of Jordan and Syria having a single exhibit. This move, he said, is proof of economic integration between the two countries and is a step towards reaching Arab unity.

OCT. 1976 EXPORTS

TO SYRIA JUMP 54%;

IMPORTS 61%

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan's exports to Syria in October 1976 jumped 54 per cent compared with the same month in 1975. Jordan's imports from Syria rose by 61 per cent in the same period.

Department of Statistics sources said Jordan's exports to Syria last October amounted to JD 363,000 against JD 235,000 in October 1975. Jordan's imports from Syria amounted to JD 748,000 against JD 465,000 in October 1975.

Main exports were gas cookers, medicine, vegetables, woolen cloth, toilet soap, plastic utensils and lifts.

Imports were mainly livestock, wheat, silk and cotton cloth, ready-made garments, wooden boxes, heaters and biscuits.

Fertiliser production embraced C'ttee decides on new industrial integration

AMMAN (JNA). — The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee for Industrial Coordination Thursday concluded its meetings here and decided to further integrate industries in the two countries, including phosphate and nitrogen fertiliser production -- destined to grow into a major industry in the region.

The Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Hashem Dabhas, expressed his pleasure at the positive results of the committee's second meeting. He said: "During the first year of the Jordanian-Syrian economic integration programme, we have taken more fruitful steps than the Arab Common Market has achieved in its 16 years of existence."

The Under-Secretary of the Syrian Ministry of Industry, Mr. Nazeh Raslan, also welcomed the results, which formed

a further "brick in the joint Jordanian-Syrian structure." Besides the 16 industries already being coordinated, the committee stressed the necessity of setting up new integrated industries in Jordan and Syria for phosphate and nitrogen fertiliser and rubber tube production.

The committee will meet in Damascus in mid-April to continue discussions on coordination and integration of such industries as chemicals, engineering, textiles, and mining, besides coordination in the fields of research, industrial experiments, increasing productivity, the formation of cadres and vocational training.

The Syrian delegation Thursday visited the Hussein Medicine Plant at Al Salt and saw the various types of medicine produced.

The Syrian team will return to Damascus Friday.

Qatari minister visits Iraq

AMMAN (R). — Qatari Labour and Social Affairs Minister Ali Ibn Ahmad Al Ansari Thursday conferred with two Iraqi ministers, Baghdad Radio reported.

Mr. Al Ansari, who also heads the Ministerial Committee for the Follow-up and Implementation of Recommendations adopted by the Conference on Demographic Activities in the Arab countries, arrived in Baghdad the same day.

He discussed with Iraq's municipal and Rural Affairs Minister, Dr. Izat Mustafa, the means of promoting and developing relations between their two countries. Iraq's Labour and Social Affairs Minister Babak Al Beshdari attended, the radio said.

He also met the Iraqi Planning Minister Adnan Hussein to review the recommendations and the possible support by the Arab countries of projects carried out by the United Nations Fund for Demographic Activities, the radio added.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL ENGLISH CLASSES

The British Council English Classes start on Monday (March 21st). There is still time to register!

THE BRITISH COUNCIL ENGLISH FOR ENGINEERS

Following the success of the first English language course for engineers, the British Council in conjunction with Amman Polytechnic, will be starting the second English course for engineers on SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1977 at Amman Polytechnic. In a 4-week period, 60 hours of tuition provide the participants with practice in speaking, reading and writing the technical English necessary for their fields of specialisation.

Components of the course include: small classes (maximum 12 students per class); considerable use of the language laboratory to practise listening and speaking skills; specially prepared teaching materials which are relevant to the participants' needs.

The level is intermediate and advanced. Classes will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 8 p.m., Saturday to Wednesday inclusive. The fee of JD 50 includes: all teaching materials; tuition fees; transport to and from the Polytechnic (from the Salah Eldin Hotel to the Polytechnic and back).

For further details contact the British Council, Amman.

Electrical link-up for Sunday

DAMASCUS, March 17 (JNA). — The Jordanian-Syrian committee entrusted with preparing the link-up of electrical nets in both countries Thursday held a meeting at Der'a. It decided the link-up itself -- officially take place Sunday. The celebration will be under patronage of the prime ministers of both countries. President Sadat will delegate Minister of Industry and Commerce Najmeddin Dejami and Pre-Khlefawi will delegate Minister of Electricity Omar Asaf. The celebration will place at the Syrian villa of Sheikh Maskeen.

NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. — The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker, Thursday received Admiral Wil-Crowe, Commander of the American fleet in the Middle East. Meeting was attended by the military attache at the American Embassy.

AMMAN. — Speaker of the Upper House Bahjat Talhoumi Thursday received the ambassador of Bahrain and the Bulgarian in affairs in Amman.

AMMAN. — Housing Bank President Zubeir Khouri today leaving Kuwait to hold talks with a number of businessmen on using the capital of the bank and the sale of new shares.

AMMAN. — The secretary of the General Union of Workers elections Thursday left for the Soviet Union to participate in the 6th conference of the Union of Workers Associations in the 2 Union to be held March 21.

AMMAN. — A number of Arab experts will conduct a training course on protection of nature here Saturday. The six-day course includes lectures and training at the University of Jordan and organisation's headquarters at Azraq. This course was prepared and sponsored by the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation in cooperation with the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature and the University of Jordan.

AMMAN. — An information delegation from the Radio and Television of Vatican will arrive here next April.

WRITERS SEMINAR CONTINUES WORK

AMMAN (J.T.). — The third session of the seminar on the Jordanian writer Thursday took place at the headquarters of the Jordanian Writers Society.

Two papers were presented during this session. The first, entitled "The Written Word in Jordanian Laws and Systems", was read by the representative of the Bar Association Mr. Subhi Qutob. A draft recommendation was submitted stating that the press law should be amended.

The second paper, entitled "The Standard of Living of the Jordanian Writer", was read by Mr. Salem Nahhas. The paper was discussed by members, who proposed that the standard of living of writers in Jordan should be raised. The seminar will conclude its meetings Saturday.

What's Going On

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the death of Ludwig van Beethoven, the Goethe Institute in cooperation with the Haya Cultural Centre presents a cello/piano recital given by Gerhard Mantel - cello and Erika Friese - piano with works by Ludwig van Beethoven. 8:00 p.m., at the Haya Art Centre.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan. The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	573.0	579.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	139.2	139.6
French franc	66.8	67.1
Swiss franc	130.2	130.6
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.5	37.7
Saudi riyal	94.1	94.2
Lebanon pound	110.0	110.5
Syrian pound	82.2	82.4
Iraqi dinar	949.0	954.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,154.0	1,160.0
Egyptian pound	462.0	470.0
Libyan dinar	810.0	815.0
UAE dirham	85.2	85.5

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Sunken treasure ships pile up over the centuries eluding discovery

MAGNOLIA, Mass. (CSM). — Tales of sunken treasure, gold bullion, and jewels entombed in Spanish galleons, are common in the warm waters of Florida and the West Indies.

The discovery of the Spanish treasure ship San Antonio in Bermuda drew international publicity in 1959. Even back in 1603, the wreck of the Sea Venture was famous enough to inspire Shakespeare's "The Tempest."

But not all wrecks lie amid coral reefs in turquoise seas. Many are entombed beneath the cold waters of New England. And many are waiting to be salvaged.

In April, 1717, the pirate ship *Whidah*, captained by Samuel Bellamy, foundered on the eastern shore of Cape Cod. The 300-ton vessel was carrying captured gold, silver, and ivory valued then at over \$100,000. The treasure was never found, and still lies, along with 144 crewmen, somewhere off the shifting Cape Cod sands.

Another sort of treasure lies off Manchester, Mass., in the remains of the wooden ship, *New Hampshire*, her sides sheathed in copper, was a contemporary of the frigate *Constitution* now preserved in Boston. But her fighting days were long over when the Navy finally sold the old warrior of salvage in 1922.

Unfortunately, the two from her last berth, in New York, to Eastport, Maine, was never completed. In Massachusetts Bay, near the appropriately named *Grave* Island, the *New Hampshire* foundered and sank in less than 30 feet of water.

Today, the wooden planking is gone, but divers still surface with the nails, rods, and bolts that once held the timbers together. And many bear the trademark "R" for the man who did the forging — Paul Revere.

The *Whidah* and *New Hampshire* are only two of thousands of ships carpeting the seabed off New England's shores. Not all are so old.

A liberty ship, lost off Rockport, Massachusetts, in the winter of 1945, is still visible at low tide, a mile and a half off shore. Other relics of World War II include no less than three German U boats.

The German submarine U-853, which sank in May, 1945, seven miles east of Sand Point, Block Island, Rhode Island, still jealously guards its hoard of mercury. Massachusetts waters shroud the U-85 and U-125. Next to the hunters, of course, lie their victims: *Cornwallis*, *Liverpool Packet*, *Thirley*, *Skotland*, *Empire Knight*, *Alex Macomb*, and many others, torpedoed and lost.

The sinking of a lowly freighter, going down with a cargo of coal, doesn't conjure the romance of a Spanish galleon. Yet, every ship offers something of value, whether it's souvenirs, historical artifacts, or metals — from rare to scrap.

In fact, raising scrap metal is often a professional salvor's only intention. Bronze, copper, brass, and tin, unaffected by salt water, can bring large profits, no matter how old the source.

Steel and iron, which are vulnerable to sea water, still can be salvaged if raised quick-

ly enough. And, if the energy crisis continues, it may soon pay to bring up some of the thousands of tons of coal resting, burnable as ever, on the ocean floor.

Of course, it takes more than a nose for treasure to be a successful salvor. It takes equipment.

The Dutch firm of L. Smit, the largest salvage concern in the world, has a fleet of 34 vessels ready to raise sunken wrecks or push supertankers off sandbars.

Large-scale salvaging requires such hefty equipment as floating cranes capable of hoisting 1,000 tons from the ocean bottom, tugs with 25,000 horsepower engines and pulling capacities of 100 tons, and thousands of feet of doubled nylon cable, 15 inches thick.

The salvor also could take a course in maritime law to advantage. The most important law to remember is that a ship, whether beached, sunk, or abandoned on the high seas retains its ownership indefinitely.

Contrary to popular myth, finders-keepers does not apply. Removing spare parts from a beached yacht or salvaging a freighter's cargo, without permission, can land an adventurer in jail.

To be legal, a salvor has to report all claims to local authorities; in the United States, that's usually the Coast Guard. Then, he must file for "fair and just salvage" rights in the appropriate court.

In most circumstances, federal district courts have original jurisdiction in admiralty cases.

Though a salvor has a just lien on rescued property, he never owns it unless the court so decides.

Despite the law, divers rummage in the hallways and holds of lost ships with the knowledge and tacit consent of the owners. The *Andrea Doria*, which lies in only 200 feet of water 200 miles east of New York, can actually get crowded on pleasant Sundays.

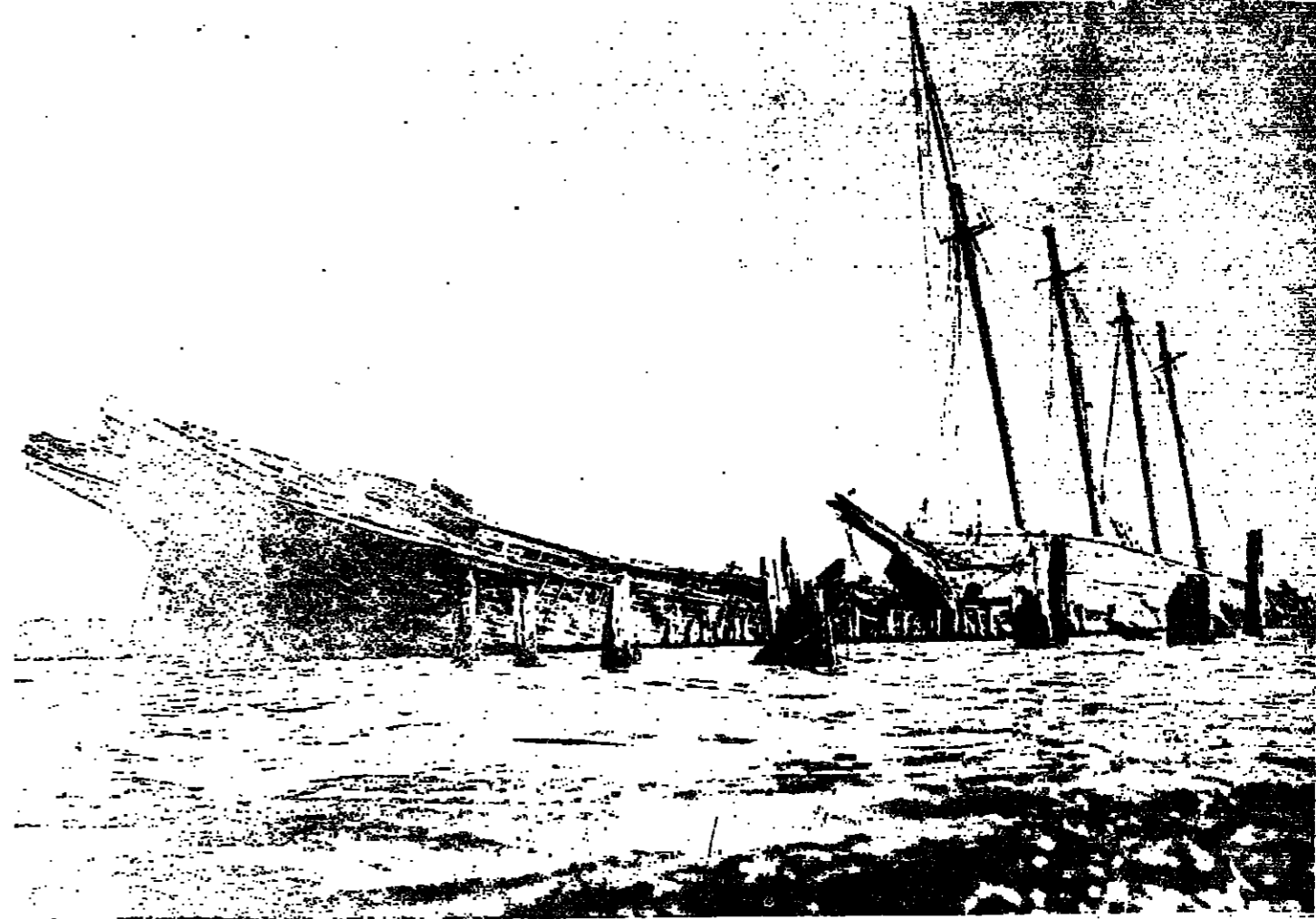
There are many reasons for the apparent lack of concern. Enforcement of ownership rights is difficult, for one thing. For another, insurance payments may have satisfied the financial losers — who are happy enough to let the bulk rest in peace.

An important possession for any would-be salvor is a copy of *Encyclopedia of American Shipwrecks*, by Bruce D. Berman. Published by the Mariner's Press in Boston, Berman's encyclopedia lists over 13,000 sunken vessels — more than 4,500 of them in northeastern waters.

Some lie in 10 feet of water, some in hundreds. All are listed by name, rig, tonnage, dates of launching and sinking. After each entry, which also records the precise location and a dollar estimate of the loss is given.

Many of the ships lost at sea remain completely lost; no charts or documents have given their bearings.

The *Hannah*, for instance, reckoned to be the first American naval vessel, disappeared after its defeat at the hands of H. M. S. *Nautilus* in the fall of



Their sailing days long past, these old hulks sit decaying in some cove while many have sunk deep below the crest, only seen by the determined diver.

1775. Today it probably rests at the bottom of Massachusetts Bay, waiting to make some intrepid diver famous.

Other wrecks lie among other waters waiting to make a diver rich.

Qadhafi gets green revolution rolling to make Libya agriculturally self-sufficient

MALTA, (F.T.) — Libya is a country forever in search of a new face. Its leader, Muammar Qadhafi, has just changed its name to the People's Socialist Libyan Arab Republic; he is also determined to change much of its barren desert into lush farmland.

In response to his renewed calls for Libyans to develop their country into a self-reliant food producer, increased injections of funds have just been approved, to try and consolidate Libya's so-called "green revolution."

Turning bleak, boulder-strewn escarpments and desert scrubland into farmland will this year cost Libya 300 million Libyan dinars. The figure will inflate to 23 billion Libyan dinars by the end of 1980.

This investment in agriculture reflects one of the major uses of petrodollars by Mr. Qadhafi and his military regime. In the seven years he has been running the country about 1 billion dinars have been ploughed into agriculture to turn wastelands into wheat, barley and vegetable fields.

Mr. Qadhafi's of course, is a rich man's world. Endowed with a huge income relative to its population — Libya is expected to earn 7 billion Libyan dinars from oil exports this year — the country is able to buy the best expertise and equipment which money can secure.

Being himself restless in the pursuit of oil price mark-ups, Mr. Qadhafi is fearful of the protest that industrialised countries might use food as a weapon in the same way Arabs have used oil. This partly explains why he has demanded a widespread agricultural development programme, to be pushed through at breakneck speed.

"Food", the colonel recently warned at an up-country rally, "means freedom. A man will live without his TV, car or watch but his will crumble when he is hungry. If the great

powers were to impose a food embargo against us our independence would be lost."

A measure of the task that faces Libya is the extent of development that has been planned. In the next three years Libya's agricultural land must increase to more than 1 million hectares and irrigated land to 283,000 hectares; for wheat yields to increase to 336,000 tons, barley to 248,000 tons and vegetables to 825,000 tons.

All told, a total of 1.3 million hectares on the coastal belt, and in the south must be reclaimed and developed into farmsteads before Libyans can meet the requirements of their plan.

Of course, hardly anyone in Libya, except Colonel Qadhafi, seriously believes that other countries will impose a food embargo, and this perhaps explains the shortfall in targets laid down by economic planners.

Mr. Qadhafi's major problem in trying to develop his country out of its Third World status remains the considerable inertia which grips Libya's 2 million people.

Nevertheless his investments have already produced impressive if not spectacular figures. According to the latest figures Libya, once a parched dustbowl on the North African coast, was harvesting 75,000 tons of wheat by the end of 1975, 180,000 tons of barley, 620,000 tons of vegetables, 141,000 tons of fruit, producing 46,000 tons of meat, processing 85,000 tons of dairy products and collecting 9,000 tons of eggs.

By the end of last year Libya's farming population had grown by about 5 per cent to total 169,958 farmers. The constant purchase of livestock for the government for farmers increased the number of sheep to 2.8 million head, cattle to 147,131 head.

Mr. Qadhafi's "green revolution" goes on most actively in four major agricultural development zones.

On Jafara Plain, which stretches across the entire coast belt east of Tripoli, agricultural townships have sprung from desert wastelands. Wadi Zanzan, township last year grew by another 352 farms and that at Gattara by 134 farms. At Garaboli, 5,000 hectares and 1,050 new farms were handed over to young farmers almost at the same time; foreign firms started developing another 1,500 hectares; neighbouring Haddia Al Khadra, despite his socialist stance, Mr. Qadhafi places no trust in state agriculture. Instead, land is developed by the state at minimal rates, repayable in years.

Wherever crops can be raised men and machinery move in. Valleys once neglected are being turned into gardens. The Dead Valley on the Jafara Plain was aptly renamed the *Valley of the Living* last year after the colonel distributed 180 farms there.

Farming settlements producing wheat, fodder, fruit and rearing all types of livestock are rising on three other zones at Kufra where huge underground reserves have been discovered. Jebel Al Akhdar where 80,000 hectares have been turned into wheatfields and where Jersey cows are being reared with great success, and in Fezzan, the desert zone south of Tripoli.

At the same time millions of saplings have been planted around farming settlements, to shield fields from the biting winds and to hold the desert.

Abdul Majid Al Goud, Libya's Minister running agricultural development, says, "Eventually, I'm sure, agriculture will replace petroleum as the country's major source of income."

Why is he so confident? Goud says "good planning and termination and the fact that various zones possess the necessary ingredients, including cultivable soil and water. Al don't forget — we have the money."

Lethal ship cargoes create deadly hazard on high seas

LONDON, (F.T.) — Three miles off the Italian port of Otranto, at the entrance to the Adriatic sea, lies the hulk of the Yugoslav freighter *Cavat*. On board are 909 drums full of lethal chemicals. "A poisonous bomb, full of death, momentarily asleep," is how marine expert Jacques Cousteau describes it.

The *Cavat* is just one of many hulks scattered around the world carrying latently lethal cargoes. But nobody knows how many. According to the United Nations Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, 80 per cent of all the world's cargoes carried by sea can be described as hazardous.

A majority, and the ones that make the headlines, are petroleum or petrochemical cargoes, usually carried in bulk in specially constructed vessels. These have attracted the most stringent international rules. However, the remaining 14 per cent of hazardous cargoes — seven per cent of all world shipping — is virtually undomesticated.

The International Maritime Consultative Organisation, IMCO, publishes an eight-volume *Dangerous Goods Code* covering some 5,000 items that are inflammable, explosive, corrosive, caustic, infectious or radioactive.

But data about chemical losses at sea is "non-existent," according to Yoshio Sasamura, director of IMCO's Marine Environment Division. "Many transporters just don't know what they're carrying. Masters seldom have enough information about the cargoes they take on."

The problem is that the *Dangerous Goods Code* is only a recommendation; it is not mandatory. There is no means by which it can be enforced and its implementation depends on international goodwill. "Certain countries do not implement the code fully," says Sasamura drily.

In most cases, prosecutions under domestic legislation can only be brought against a country's own flag carriers. Economic reasons drive many shipowners to fly flags of convenience which make a mockery of international codes.

In practice, according to James Dawson, of C. T. Bowring, the big London Lloyd's broking and underwriting agency group, insurers base their risks on "good housekeeping." "If a vessel is ship-shaped, then their attitude is set on with it." There's no reference to IMCO regulations regarding cargo.

Indeed, he says, competition in the insurance business is so vigorous that many brokers do not want to know about international bodies with their ponderous regulations. Although cut-throat and cut-price competition for marine hull business may be easing with the present big lay-ups of surplus tonnage, there are still plenty of underwriters — particularly outside the well-ordered London Lloyd's and com-

pany markets — who will take on a risk without asking too many questions.

Certainly the cut-price premium merchants do not go too deeply into ultimate liability risks that might arise should an ultra-hazardous cargo cause a widespread disaster years after a foundering — if only because they avoid writing such risks. The *Cavat* was doubtless paid out as a straight hull and cargo loss, and there the matter remains.

By and large, the present system works, but much of it is based on trust. An agent has to accept the word of a shipper about the contents of a consignment, an inspector the word of the agent and the master the word of the inspector.

In the frantic rush to get ships turned around and back to sea as fast as possible, however, things sometimes get overlooked.

In November, 1974, four seamen suffered kidney failure and hideously blistered skins and 13 other crew workers were treated for poisoning, after arsine gas, a compound of arsenic and hydrogen, escaped on board the ship *Asiafreighter* bound from Rotterdam to Greece.

The cylinders in which the gas was carried were clearly marked with a skull and cross bones — but they were packed in an unmarked container. Somehow the arsine had also been left off the ship's list of dangerous substances even though it was properly described in the bills of lading.

But the bills were in Holland and when the gas began to leak the *Asiafreighter* naturally put into port to land her sick crewmen. The ship rode out a gale in Falmouth harbour in the English Channel with a hold full of the poisonous gas before experts determined what it was and how to dispose of it.

In December the vessel *Indian Endurance* had to be towed out of Falmouth harbour after 40 drums of chemicals lashed on her deck were damaged in a storm.

Another horrifying aspect of chemical traffic is the potentially lethal combinations of cargoes carried.

Both IMCO and the U.S. Coast Guard produce compatibility guides — what can be stowed next to what — but the permutations on IMCO's 5,000 hazardous cargoes are vast and few quayside cargo inspectors are master chemists.

The 11,000 ton Spanish freighter *Germania* which went down in December 1971 carried sodium cyanide from Hamburg, fertilizer from Rotterdam, and tolylene-di-isocyanate dye base, Vidden-D insecticide and ethyl acetate from Antwerp. She was bound for Algeria when she caught fire, burned for five days and then sank 35 miles off Guernsey.

The 402 drums of Vidden-D still lie with the wreck of the *Germania*. At the time of the disaster, a spokesman for

the manufacturers, Dow Chemicals, commented: "It will kill all marine life it contacts. The chemical is extremely dangerous to handle. Even under control conditions our people wear full protective clothing and breathing gear." "It's only a matter of time till the drums containing the pesticide succumb to the sea's corrosion."

Another problem exercising international control bodies is container losses overboard. About three times each week, Lloyd's List notes deck-carried containers overboard and adrift in the sea. "Nothing's done to report their contents," says James Dawson.

Also worrying Merchant Navy Officers is the threat from chemical road tankers carried aboard roll-on, roll-off ferries. In January last year the RAF had to drop an industrial chem-

ist by helicopter on to the deck of the Ireland-bound ferry *Domino* after a road tanker loaded with volatile, poisonous butyl acetate overturned when the ship was struck by a gale.

These examples, though, include only the dangers the world learns about. "We have no idea of how often small incidents happen and go unreported," says IMCO's Sasamura.

Light guides bring the video phone into reach this century

NEW YORK, N.Y., (CSM). — Behind that monotonous dial-tone on your telephone, a technological revolution now underway is set to have a dramatic influence on the lives of people everywhere.

Advances in telecommunication dreamed of just 10 years ago are being tested and put in use by scientists and technicians in the United States, Britain, and Japan. A push-button world of instant two-way audio and video communication no longer is science fiction, but suddenly appears within reach by the end of this century.

Advances in telephone communication that are now taking place, although generally unnoticed by the public, include: — The long rows of telephone operators at switchboards are being replaced by operators who sit at computer consoles. Switching, billing, and credit-card checks are handled automatically.

— Where your telephone needs repair, the operator taking your call pushes a button and your maintenance record appears on a cathode-ray tube. While you

still are talking your line is checked automatically by a computer, which runs several fundamental tests, allowing the operator to give you a better idea of how long the repair will take.

— Long-distance calls are being set up on separate digital paths which do not tie up the limited number of more expensive voice channels between cities. The new system — now in operation in six U.S. cities and expected to be nationwide by 1980 — cuts the average connection time by 75 per cent to a fraction of a second. When multiplied by many thousands of phone calls, it substantially reduces the time voice channels are tied up.

— By far the most dramatic new development is that of light-wave communication. Almost 100 years ago, Alexander Graham Bell was keenly interested in the concept of using a light beam, rather than electricity, to transmit a voice or picture. He experimented with what he called "photophone" — a system using sunlight reflected from mirrors to carry messages.

According to scientists at Bell Laboratories, two research breakthroughs in the past 20 years led to the development of the light-wave communication system currently in experimental use in the United States, Britain, and Japan. First, the invention of the laser in 1958 gave scientists a suitable light source. Then came the discovery of "light guides" — tiny glass fibres capable of trapping light waves and carrying them over long distances.

According to Ira Jacobs, director of Bell's wide-band transmission facilities laboratories, these tiny optical light guides can carry thousands of telephone conversations or television pictures for miles at a much lower cost than the bulky copper cables currently in use.

What has Dr. Jacobs and other communications experts excited is the seemingly unlimited potential of "fibre optics." A major stumbling block to establishing two-way audio and video communication systems in the past was that large and expensive coaxial cables were needed to provide enough channels to make such systems workable.

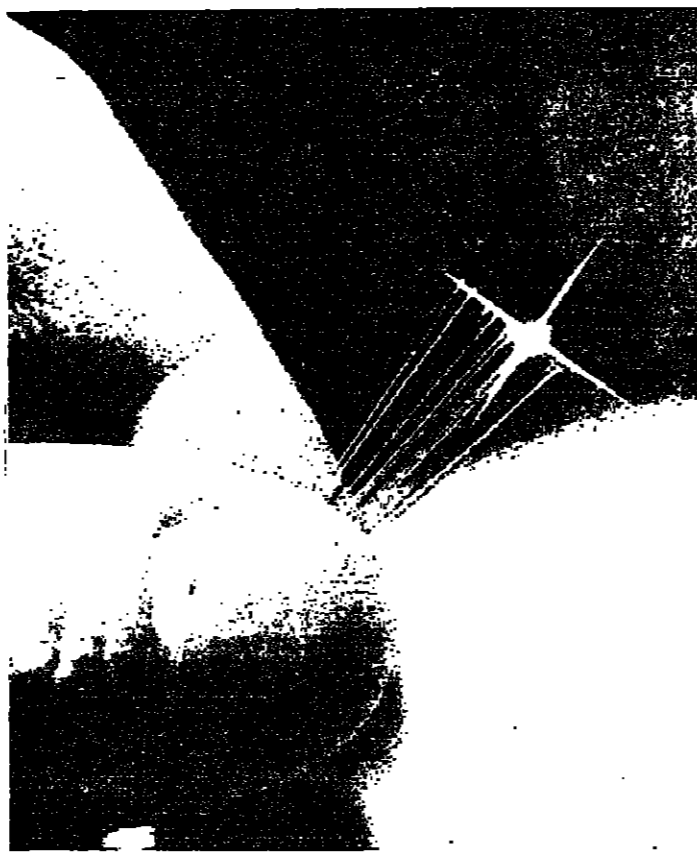
Light frequencies in optical fibres can carry 10,000 times more information than electrical signals in conventional copper cables. In Chicago, where American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) soon will begin installing its first commercial light-wave communication system for further experimenting, a single pair of hair-like light guides will carry 576 simultaneous conversations.

A cable of 24 of the glass light-guides will run under one and a half miles of Chicago streets, but residents will not even notice the switchover — nor will they likely be aware that they are part of a technological milestone.

Some experts say the advent of light-wave communication will prove as significant as the invention of the transistor, which made minicomputers and hand-held calculators possible.

Dr. Jacobs sees light-wave communication as capable of handling any communication service that can be envisioned now.

"The only question is, how much are people willing to pay for it?" he explains.



"Light guides" carry the phone conversation.



A memory phone made in Germany does the dialing automatically.

هكذا صنع الهاتف

Vance: No more aid promised to Zaire

WASHINGTON, March 17 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance yesterday pledged full consultation with Congress before sending any more military equipment to Zaire — under attack by "Katangan gen- darmes". The two plane-loads of supplies being flown to the west African nation this week were all that had been promised by the United States, he said.

ing Zaire and appealed to the West to ignore the Kinshasa's government's pleas for military aid.

A Defence Ministry commu- nique, broadcast by Luanda Ra- dio, said the troubles were ca- used by internal opponents of President Mobutu Sese Seko.

Meanwhile, France has not been asked by Zaire for special military aid to counter the re- ported invasion, informed poli- tical sources said in Paris today.

Carter letter handed to Vietnamese premier

HONG KONG, March 17 (R). — A U.S. presidential commission today met Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong in Hanoi and handed over to him a letter from President Carter, the Vietnam news agency reported.

the question of Americans miss- ing in the Vietnam war and other matters of mutual inter- est.

Mr. Dong "had a cordial con- versation with the commission, during which he clearly ex- pressed the views of the Social- istic Republic of Vietnam on problems of mutual concern," the agency said.

The agency, monitored here, gave no details of the letter conveyed by the commission's leader, United Auto Workers' (UAW) President Leonard Wood- cock. The mission arrived in Vietnam yesterday to discuss

"presented the views of the United States side on these prob- lems," it said.

Bishop Muzorewa bids for Pretoria's support, thinks South African newspaper

CAPE TOWN, March 17 (AFP). — Mr. Gordon Chavunduka, Secretary General of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's faction of the African National Council (ANC) of Rhodesia, met South African government officials here yesterday, probably in a bid to win Pretoria's support for the faction, the Rand Daily Mail reported today.

Mr. Chavunduka attended a meeting on Tuesday night of the South African Institute of International Affairs here at which he disclosed that a Rhodesian government "expert" had told the ANC a referendum could be organised in Rhodesia in a space of three weeks, the Liberal daily said.

According to the report, Mr. Chavunduka said the ANC was seeking international support for a referendum to determine which of the nationalist movements had the widest support.

He described the proposed referendum as a preliminary step towards direct negotiations with Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith on the transfer of power to a group representing the majority.

But observers say Bishop Muzorewa's faction is in a difficult situation since the leaders of Southern Africa's five front-line countries — Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Tanzania and Zambia — agreed to give their support "exclusively" to the Patriotic Front alliance, headed by Mr. Joshua Nkomo and Mr. Robert Mugabe.

According to Mr. Chavunduka, it would be "disastrous" for his organisation to negotiate with Mr. Smith without first obtaining some assurances that talks could succeed.

Bishop Muzorewa had been touring black African and Scandinavian countries in the past few weeks in a diplomatic bid to break out of the isolation in which the front-line states' position has placed his faction.

The Patriotic Front has stated its opposition to a refer- endum.

Re-polling ordered in 8 Indian constituencies

NEW DELHI, March 17 (AFP). — India's Election Commission today ordered new voting in 18 polling stations in four states which took part in elections yesterday.

The re-polling, ordered due to violent disturbances, would affect eight constituencies in the four States of Bihar, Hary- ana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. It is scheduled for Sat- urday.

A total of 352 constituencies involving an electorate of about 190 million figured in Wed- nesday's election. Voting for the rest of the constituencies in the 542-member Lok Sabha (Lower house) is to be held for three days starting tomorrow.

At least 6 persons were killed and several others injured in vi- olent clashes near polling booths yesterday. Several polling booths were also attacked and ballot boxes damaged — nota- bly in the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

The booths included one in the village of Piparpur, Amethi constituency where Mr. Sanjay Gandhi, Youth Congress leader and younger son of Prime Min- ister Indira Gandhi, is a candi- date. Among the others was one in Chenara, contested by the Chairman of the breakaway Congress for Democracy (CFD) Party and former Agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram.

The Election Commission said it had received reports from the returning officers regarding "forcible removal of ballot pa- pers from polling stations, se- izing of ballot papers, marking and putting them inside the bal- lot boxes and other cases of tampering with the poll."

Castro arrives in Tanzania

DAR ES SALAAM, March 17 (R). — Cuban leader Fidel Cas- tro arrived here today for a five-day official visit to a colour- ful welcome from dancers and thousands of Tanzanians.

ned speculation they had gone to Mogadishu in Somalia. But they were vague about exactly where Dr. Castro spent yester- day evening.

Mystery continued to surround Dr. Castro's whereabouts yesterday, after he was re- ported to have left Addis Ababa on the previous leg of his Afri- can tour. Senior officials on Dr. Castro's plane insisted they had left Addis Ababa today and de-

The Cuban leader, wearing his usual green military fatig- ues and a pistol, arrived aboard a Soviet turboprop aircraft. He embraced President Julius Nyerere at the foot of the steps from the plane as the Tan- zanian leader apologised for the steady drizzle falling on the air- port.

Turkey rejects Greek protest over proposed Aegean manoeuvre

ATHENS, March 17 (R). — Turkey has rejected a Greek protest that naval and air force exercises planned later this month in the Aegean Sea would be an abuse of Turkish rights and hamper navigation and air traffic in the area, the Greek Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The dispute over territorial claims in the Aegean and ag- ree to refrain from actions which might undermine the balance of power in the area.

A ministry statement said Greece had suggested several changes in the plans for the exercises from March 21 to 28 after Turkey asked Greece to issue instructions to all ships and airlines.

"Yesterday's statement is 'The Greek government pro- posed changes so that naviga- tion and air traffic would not be hampered in the in- ternational regulations' view that air traffic and na- vigation should have the mil- itary manoeuvres in interna- tional waters and airspace."

A government source in At- hens last night accused Turkey of trying to create tension through its attitude.

"The Turkish government declined to make the propo- sitions in its initial plans. It alleged that the exercises take place in international waters and air space and that manoeuvres are not contrary international regulations."

Greece and Turkey, allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Or- ganisation (NATO), came close to war last summer when a Turkish vessel conducted seismographic oil surveys in areas of the Aegean claimed by Greece as part of its continental shelf.

"The first allegation is re- spect to the exercises still in progress for a long time. This is contrary to interna- tional practice. There is an abuse of rights from the Turkish side at the statement said."

The two countries have opened talks on ways to resolve

2 hijack attempts foiled in Japan

TOKYO, March 17 (R). — A would-be hijacker today com- mitted suicide, apparently by poisoning, in Japan's second abortive hijacking in less than six hours.

Nippon Airways (ANA) Boeing 727 bound for Sendai in central Japan shortly after take- off from Tokyo's Haneda Air- port.

Police said the dead man, who hit a passenger on the head, tried to take over an Air-

He entered the cockpit, brandishing what was later dis- covered to be a toy pistol, and ordered the pilot to shuttle be- tween Tokyo and Sendai.

When the pilot refused the would-be hijacker, who has not been identified, locked himself in the toilet. Police said he apparently swallowed poison as the pilot brought the air- liner down for an emergency landing at Haneda.

Earlier, today, a 27-year-old man attempted to hijack at knife-point another ANA Boeing 727 flying from Sendai in northern Japan to Chitose, but was immediately overpow- ered by passengers.

Int'l body says 1,500 prisoners vanish in Chile

LONDON, March 17 (AFP). — More than 1,500 political prisoners have "disappeared" in Chile since the ruling mili- tary junta's successful coup d'etat on Sept. 11, 1973, Amnesty International reported yesterday, an organisation for the defence of political prisoners, noted that the Chilean govern- ment had publicly declared that only a single political prisoner was still being held without trial under provisions of the state of siege.

Its assertion did not refer to sev- eral hundred political prisoners held under other legislation who have been tried, are awaiting trial, or are presently un- der trial before military tribu- nals," the organisation said. It added that several hundred others were being detained by security forces — primarily the DINA (political police) — and that nothing had been heard of them since their arrest.

At the same time he hoped for agreements on voluntary curbs, which is the policy tried by former President Ford last year in the case of special steel.

As it turned out, the Euro- pean steel producers opposed voluntary curbs. American steel- makers meanwhile dislike the steel deals between the Euro- pean Economic Community (EEC) and Japan, which, they say, will mean increased Jap- anese exports to the United States.

There is another complica- tion. The larger American tele- vision set maker Zenith has asked a New York court to give a ruling on indirect tax rebates which, it says, Japane- se colour television producers are getting. Zenith wants this practice declared illegal.

If Zenith wins, other busi- ness sectors may well be affect- ed. This would amount to a unilateral denunciation by the U.S. of international accords allowing such rebates.

If the court favours Zenith, the Treasury will lodge an appeal. Treasury Under-Secretary Fred Begsten has made this clear.

Thus, the case could reach the Supreme Court and it may be years before it is finally set- tled.

COMPATIBILITY BY ELECTRONIC MOSCOW, March 17

FR). — Scientists in Lening have devised an electronic testing apparatus to di- agnose the psychological compatibility of people who work together, the Soviet news agency Tass reported today.

Commercial arms deals worth more than \$25 million are already subject to Congressional scrutiny and possible veto to under a law enacted last year.

Appearing before the House of Representatives International Relations Committee, Mr. Vance also said the United States had begun talks on mul- tilateral restraint with na- tions that supplied as well as received weapons.

The equipment had been used on board Soviet sub- mersibles and in several fac- tories. Tass said, and it could be used, for example, for football re- search groups or team com- manders.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Certain U.S. industries press Carter for protectionist measures on imports

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AFP). — President Carter is under increasing pressure from U.S. industrial sectors vulner- able to imports and calling for protection.

The International Trade Com- mission (ITC) Monday put forward its third and fourth protectionist recommendations this year, covering television sets and raw sugar.

The commission proposed that customs' dues on colour- television sets be quadrupled over the coming two years, and then be brought down again over a three-year period to their present 5 per cent.

Mr. Carter last Friday re- jected an ITC proposal on the minor question of canned mush- rooms. The chief exporters to this country, Taiwan and South Korea, have already agreed on voluntary cut-backs.

Three of the commission's six members said the measure should also cover black-and-

white sets. One member would prefer quotas. The ITC has also recom- mended a big reduction in the quota for raw sugar imports.

The commission earlier put forward proposals covering footwear and mushrooms.

In the case of footwear, Mr. Carter must give a ruling by April 9 on the suggestion that tariffs be sharply increased, above a quota of 285 million pairs (the 1974 import figure).

As regards footwear and television sets, U.S. trade unions are complaining that im- ports have risen substantially after the drop in 1974-75. Foot- wear imports, for example, to- day account for 46 per cent of the market's requirements as against 20 per cent a decade ago. Imports of colour tele- vision sets rose 17 per cent last year and now meet 44 per cent of requirements.

Sugar is a different problem. Protection is necessary for American growers, against a background of lower rates due

to over-production, it is claim- ed.

In passing, it should be noted that the ITC is an independ- ent body rather than the same lines as the commissions for stock exchange operations and postage rates.

The Carter administration's views on free trade are not entirely clear. Its members have several times affirmed their belief in it and their dis- like of protectionism. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said on Sunday that protection- ism could mean higher prices in the United States and reprisals from other countries.

But he did not rule out "mod- erate" tariff and quota moves if this type of measure was needed to safeguard American industry.

At the same time he hoped for agreements on voluntary curbs, which is the policy tried by former President Ford last year in the case of special steel.

As it turned out, the Euro- pean steel producers opposed voluntary curbs. American steel- makers meanwhile dislike the steel deals between the Euro- pean Economic Community (EEC) and Japan, which, they say, will mean increased Jap- anese exports to the United States.

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If Zenith wins, other busi- ness sectors may well be affect- ed. This would amount to a unilateral denunciation by the U.S. of international accords allowing such rebates.

If the court favours Zenith, the Treasury will lodge an appeal. Treasury Under-Secretary Fred Begsten has made this clear.

Thus, the case could reach the Supreme Court and it may be years before it is finally set- tled.

At the beginning of March, two Chinese officials spoke of a comeback in the near future by the former vice premier. Foreign Minister Huang Hua said Mr. Teng would be given "an appropriate post at the right time." Mr. Liao Cheng- chih, Chairman of the Sino- Japanese Friendship Associa- tion gave his personal view as: "The earlier the better."

Three days ago, following many other signs, the People's Daily devoted the whole of its front page to an article defend- ing veteran cadres who had been dismissed and wrongfully reproached or attacked since the Cultural Revolution.

Many observers saw the article as the theoretical basis for justifying the rehabilitation not only of Mr. Teng but also of a large number of cadres and low-ranking leaders, some of whom have not been rehabi- litated at all, and others who have been given jobs beneath their capabilities over the past few years.

The article put forward "veteran cadres" as victims of the "gang of four" compri- ng the late Chairman Mao tungs' widow Chiang Ching-kuo and three other top "rad" leaders who were arrested plotting last October. It also says ago an official journal newspaper, the Lib- eral Daily, denounced the "gang four" and their "die-hard" lower in the province: man Mao's nephew Mr. Yuan-hsin, for having Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping to Hungarian "counter-revolu- ary" leader Nagy.

There are increasing signs of impatience among the "Little Teng" and a few ago this correspondent saw some minor officials do you thing of Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping? Smiling broadly replied: "He's great!"

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

BRUSSELS, March 17 (AFP). — European Economic Community (EEC) farm prices should go up by at least an average 5 per cent for the 1977-78 season, the Agriculture Committee of the European Parliament recommended today. The figure compares with a 3 per cent average suggested by the EEC Commission and 7.4 per cent claimed by the EEC Farmers' Committee. The parliamentary committee said the Commission's figure was too low for the present economic climate. Its 5 per cent recommendation will be considered next Tuesday by a plenary session of the European Parliament.

TOKYO, March 17 (R). — Japan recorded an overall balance of payments surplus of \$460 million last month compared with a January deficit of \$849 million, the Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report today. In February last year the surplus was \$219 million.

ANKARA, March 17 (R). — Turkey has agreed in principle to provide Libya with some 100,000 migrant workers, a Labour Ministry official said yesterday. He said technical details remain- ed to be discussed between the two governments. Libya is believed to employ over 500,000 foreign workers, 10,000 of them are Turks.

LEIPZIG, East Germany, March 17 (R). — East Germany has signed a deal with the Soviet Union to buy 17 million tonnes of crude oil this year as part of its aim to raise imports of Soviet oil during the current five-year-plan by nearly 40 per cent. East German officials at the Leipzig Spring Trade Fair here said the deal was reached between the Soviet oil export concern Soyuzneftexport and East Germany's main oil refinery at Schwedt, near the Polish border. East Germany relies on the Soviet Union for over 95 per cent of its rising oil needs.

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AFP). — The estimated cost of the new American B-1 bomber has gone up to \$117 million per plane, a 20 per cent increase over the previous estimate, according to the results of a study by a U.S. air force team, disclosed yesterday.

LONDON, March 17 (AFP). — Junior Foreign Office Minister Ted Rowlands last night warned the 500 Britons living in Uganda to think carefully about "the risks they run in remaining there." The Foreign Office however has denied a report in yesterday's Daily Telegraph that the government had advised the 500 to leave Uganda.

LONDON, March 17 (AFP). — The Conservative Party has in- creased its lead over the government Labour Party to 16.5 per cent according to the latest Gallup Poll published today in the Daily Telegraph (Conservative). Between March 9 and 14, Gallup asked a national cross-section of electors: "If there was a general election tomorrow which party would you support?" The replies, in percentages, after excluding the "don't knows" (10 per cent) were 49.5 for the Conservatives 33 for Labour, 13 for Liberal and 4.8 for "others."

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AFP). — Eritrea's nationalist leader Osman Saleh Sabi has attacked the Soviet Union and Libya for supporting Ethiopia's military rulers voicing surprise that they have abandoned their support for the Eritrean revolution in Addis Ababa's favour. In an interview yesterday with the Sudanese ANSA news agency, Mr. Sabi, Secretary General of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF), said the Soviet Union was "betting on the Ethiopian military regime in order to find an exit to the Red Sea."

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices suffered a moderate decline Thursday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average lost a little more than 3 points in active trading. This loss put an end to a five-session rally which had carried the average more than 25 points higher.

Profit-taking seemed to put pressure on the market today in spite of the announcement by the Commerce Department of a sharp rise in personal income last month in the U.S. (1.2 per cent). Investors were also waiting with some apprehension for the government's report on retail prices, to be published on Friday.

Losers led gainers at the bell by a small 697 to 668 margin, as most groups of shares closed on a mixed tone. Steel, oil and airline issues, however, were generally lower, while railway, tyre and gold mine shares closed on a steady tone. Sony lost 1/4 to \$10 dollars in active trading while Kodak fell 1 to 72 7/8.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 964.64, a loss of 3.16 points; Transp at 229.89, a gain of 1.51; utilities at 107.36, a gain of 0.54. 20,700,000 shares changed hands, of which 4,110,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market Thursday moved higher, with the prospect of British Leyland workers returning to work on Monday helping sentiment. The continuing fall in short-term interest rates also prompted buying interest, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index had risen six points to 434.0.

Government bonds firmed up to 1-1/2 points in moderate turnover but stock shortage distorted price movements, dealers added. Equity leaders firmed up to 10p.

Gold shares were quietly mixed and Australians eased. Dollar stocks turned mixed while Canadians were higher in line with home markets.

B.P. turned erratic after the full-year's figures which showed profits which were below market expectations. It ended unchanged at 886p after a high of 896 before the results and a low of 878. Other oils were harder.

Glaxo finished 10p up while gains of 4p to 6p were scored by other leading industrials. De La Rue was 24p up on speculation that its subsidiary, Formica International Ltd., may be sold, market sources said.

Price of gold closed in London Thursday at \$148.90/oz.

Handwritten signature in Arabic script: محمد صادق العبد